

**PART 1607—GOVERNING BODIES**

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**§ 1607.1 Purpose.**

This part is designed to insure that the governing body of a recipient will be well qualified to guide a recipient in its efforts to provide high-quality legal assistance to those who otherwise would be unable to obtain adequate legal counsel and to insure that the recipient is accountable to its clients.

**§ 1607.2 Definitions.**

As used in this part,

(a) *Attorney member* means a board member who is an attorney admitted to practice in a State within the recipient's service area.

(b) *Board member* means a member of a recipient's governing body or policy body.

(c) *Eligible client member* means a board member who is financially eligible to receive legal assistance under the Act and part 1611 of this chapter at the time of appointment to each term of office to the recipient's governing body, without regard to whether the person actually has received or is receiving legal assistance at that time. Eligibility of client members shall be determined by the recipient or, if the recipient so chooses, by the appointing organization(s) or group(s) in accordance with written policies adopted by the recipient.

(d) *Governing body* means the board of directors or other body with authority to govern the activities of a recipient receiving funds under § 1006(a)(1)(A) of the Act.

(e) *Policy body* means a policy board or other body established by a recipient to formulate and enforce policy with respect to the services provided under a grant or contract made under the Act.

(f) *Recipient* means any grantee or contractor receiving financial assistance from the Corporation under § 1006(a)(1)(A) of the Act.

**§ 1607.3 Composition.**

(a) A recipient shall be incorporated in a State in which it provides legal assistance and shall have a governing body which reasonably reflects the interests of the eligible clients in the area served and which consists of members, each of whom is supportive of the purposes of the Act and has an interest in, and knowledge of, the delivery of quality legal services to the poor.

(b) At least sixty percent (60%) of a governing body shall be attorney members.

(1) A majority of the members of the governing body shall be attorney members appointed by the governing body(ies) of one or more State, county or municipal bar associations, the membership of which represents a majority of attorneys practicing law in the localities in which the recipient provides legal assistance.

(i) Appointments may be made either by the bar association which represents a majority of attorneys in the recipient's service area or by bar associations which collectively represent a majority of the attorneys practicing law in the recipient's service area.

(ii) Recipients that provide legal assistance in more than one State may provide that appointments of attorney members be made by the appropriate bar association(s) in the State(s) or locality(ies) in which the recipient's principal office is located or in which the recipient provides legal assistance.

(2) Any additional attorney members may be selected by the recipient's governing body or may be appointed by other organizations designated by the recipient which have an interest in the delivery of legal services to the poor.

(3) Appointments shall be made so as to insure that the attorney members reasonably reflect the diversity of the legal community and the population of the areas served by the recipient, including race, ethnicity, gender and other similar factors.

(c) At least one-third of the members of a recipient's governing body shall be eligible clients when appointed. The